

**H. CON. RES. 99 - CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FY08** (*Rep. Spratt – Budget*) (*Subject to a Rule*)

**Bill Text:** [HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)  
[Bill Summary and Status](#)

**Rule:** The structured rule provides four hours of general debate with three hours equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on the Budget and one hour on the subject of economic goals and policies equally divided and controlled by Representative Maloney of New York and Representative Saxton of New Jersey and or their designees. [Rule, Committee Report, and roll call votes](#), [Amendments Offered](#).

**Committee:** [Committee on the Budget](#)

**Committee Staff Contact:** 6-7200

**Anticipated Substitutes to H. Con. Res. 99:**

[Congressional Black Caucus \(CBC\) Budget:](#) Scott, Robert (VA)/Kilpatrick (MI), Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute.

[Congressional Progressive Caucus \(CPC\) Budget:](#) Woolsey (CA), Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute.

[Republican Budget:](#) Ryan, Paul (WI), Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute.

**LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE: H. CON. RES. 99**

**The Democratic Budget Cuts Taxes for the Middle Class** — The Democratic budget does not raise a single penny of taxes, period. In fact, section 203 of the Democratic budget explicitly provides for middle-income tax cuts, including the marriage penalty, child tax credit and 10 percent bracket. The Democratic budget leaves in place all of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts until they expire, and then provides a reserve fund for the extension of the tax cuts consistent with the House Pay-As-You-Go rule. The Democratic budget also accommodates a permanent fix to the Alternative Minimum Tax, which otherwise will hit tens of millions of families—23 million Americans in 2008 alone. The President's Budget includes a number of tax increases that the Democratic budget rejects including \$81 billion in new taxes over the next five years in the form of new user fees for veterans, seniors, and other taxpayers, and the President's health care tax proposal that would raise taxes by more than \$300 billion.

**The Democratic Budget Restores Fiscal Responsibility** —The deficit is lower in FY 2008 and \$234 billion lower over the next 5 years compared to the President, and gets to balance by 2012. The Budget re-imposes the pay-as-you-go rules, which require that spending increases and tax cuts to be paid for, and which brought us to budget surpluses in 1990s. The Budget reinvigorates efforts to eliminate wasteful spending and improve government efficiency – in Social Security, Medicare, as well the Defense Department. The President's Budget calls for deficits for as far as the eye can see, never achieving balance; increases the deficit by \$507 billion over the next five years; and fails to make sure that Defense Department funds are accounted for.

**The Democratic Budget Cares for Veterans** —Our Budget provides for the largest veterans' budget increase in American history, \$3.5 billion more this year (\$32 billion more over the next five years) than the President. This will provide excellent health care for all veterans, address VA health care's repair and maintenance backlog, make needed investments in veterans' mental health care and traumatic brain injury, and speed up and improve the accuracy of disability. The President's Budget provides inadequate funding to treat VA's rising number of patients and particular conditions like post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury; and cuts funding for veterans after FY 2008, even as the number of VA patients and returning soldiers will continue to grow – by a net total of \$3.6 billion over the next 5 years.

**The Democratic Budget Defends Our Nation** — Our Budget provides 6 percent more than the President for areas that deal with homeland security, thereby beginning to fund the 9/11 Commission recommendations and

guaranteeing funding for port security, first responders, and law enforcement. The Democratic Budget targets defense funds to critical priorities, including nuclear non-proliferation, military health care, and military pay raises. The President's Budget slashes grants for first responders by 49 percent, including firefighter grants and state homeland security grants; slashes aid to state and local law enforcement by 54 percent, and freezes grants for port, rail and transit security; and cuts funding for nuclear non-proliferation by 6 percent below this year's level.

**The Democratic Budget Puts Children and Families First** — The Democratic budget puts children and families first by investing in health care and education, accommodating tax relief for middle-income families, and providing assistance for hurricane-ravaged communities. The budget includes a \$50 billion reserve fund to expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to cover more of the nine million children without health insurance. It puts its money where its priorities are, increasing funding for education, social services, and job training programs by almost \$8 billion over the 2008 program level in the President's budget. The President's Budget: cuts off 1 million children from health care in 2012; cuts Medicare and Medicaid funding by \$300 billion over the next 10 years; cuts physician payments under Medicare by 5 percent each year; underfunds No Child Left Behind by 38 percent, denying extra math and reading help to 3.2 million children and shutting 2 million children out of after-school programs.

#### **Budget Committee Documents:**

[Overview of the House Democratic Budget](#)

[Key Features of the Chairman's Mark](#)

[Caucus Charts](#), Support Letter

[Children and Families](#)

[Defending our Nation](#)

[Environment](#)

[Economic Growth](#)

[Fiscal Responsibility](#)

[Tables of Numbers](#)

#### **House Report 110-69:**

[HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)

#### **CRS Reports:**

[RL33915](#): The Budget for Fiscal Year 2008, March 23, 2007

[RL31235](#): The Economics of the Federal Budget Deficit, January 24, 2007

#### **Support Letters, Press Releases & Statements:**

[Packet of All Endorsements Listed](#)

#### **Children, Families, and Communities**

[Ohio Child Support Enforcement Agency Directors' Association](#), Support Letter

American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Support Letter

[National Human Services Assembly](#) including the following organizations:

Alliance for Children & Families \* American Foundation for the Blind \* American Red Cross \* Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies \* Big Brothers Big Sisters of America \* Camp Fire USA \* Catholic Charities USA \* Communities In Schools, Inc. \* Generations United \* Girls Inc. \* GLSEN the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network \* Leadership & Renewal Outfitters \* Lutheran Services in America \* MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership \* National 4H Council \* National Council on Aging \* National Human Services Assembly \* National Network for Youth \* United Jewish Communities \* United Neighborhood Centers of America \* United Way of America \* Youth Service America

National Child Support Enforcement Association, Support Letter

[Fight Crime: Invest in Kids](#), Support Letter

[National Association of Counties](#), Support Letter

[Association of Child Support Attorneys of Los Angeles County](#), Support Letter

Emergency Campaign for America's Priorities, Support Letter

Child Support Directors Association of California, Support Letter

US Action, Support Letter

U.S. Public Interest Research Group, Support Letter

National Council of La Raza, Support Letter

### **Disability/Social Security/Program Integrity**

American Association of People with Disabilities, Support Letter

Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, Support Letter

United Cerebral Palsy, Support Letter

The ARC of the United States, Support Letter

National Council of Social Security Management Associations, Support Letter

National Council of SSA Field Operations Locals, American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, Support Letter

United Spinal Association, Support Letter

National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Support Letter

[National Women's Law Center](#), Support Letter

### **Education**

American Association of School Administrators

American Association of University Women, Support Letter

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, Support Letter

Association of Public Television Stations, Support Letter

Committee for Education Funding, Support Letter

[National Education Association's \(NEA\)](#) , Support Letter

National Head Start Association, Support Letter

National School Boards Association, Support Letter

Student Aid Alliance, Support Letter

American Association of School Administrators, Support Letter

[Wider Opportunities for Women](#), Support Letter

### **Environment**

[Audobon](#)

[Defenders of Wildlife](#), Support Letter

Environmental Coalition (including American Rivers, Audobon, NRDC, Sierra Club, Wilderness Society and many others)

[League of Conservation Voters](#)

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), Press Relief

[Trout Unlimited](#)

The Trust for Public Land

### **Health**

American Academy of Pediatrics

Families USA

Catholic Health Association, Support Letter

### **Low-Income**

Food Research and Action Center

"National Community Action Foundation (NCAF) strongly endorses Chairman Spratt's FY 2008 Budget Resolution. It establishes responsible priorities, and meets America's needs." - David Bradley, Executive Director

[National Low Income Housing Coalition](#), Support Letter

[Wider Opportunities for Women](#), Support Letter

### **Transportation**

[American Public Transportation Association \(APTA\)](#), Support Letter

[Transportation Construction Coalition](#), Support Letter

### **Veterans and Military Retirees**

[American Legion](#), Support Letter

[The Disabled American Veterans \(DAV\)](#), Press Release

[Independent Budget](#)

[Military Officers Association of America](#)

[Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. \(VFW\)](#)

Fiscal Responsibility  
OMB Watch, Support Letter  
Technology and Innovation  
Technet, March 28  
Computer and Communications Industry Association, March 28  
Council on Competitiveness, March 28  
Electronic Industries Alliance, March 28  
Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc., Support Letter  
Information Technology Industry Council, Support Letter  
Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International North America, Support Letter  
Symantec, March 28

### **Fact Sheets & Talking Points**

[Rebuttal to False Republican Claim that Democratic Budget Raises Taxes](#)

[Top Five Reasons to Support 2008 Democratic Budget](#)

[Budget Side by Side](#), Office of the Speaker

[Budget Restores Accountability](#), Office of the Speaker

[The Democratic Budget Does Not Raise Taxes](#), Office of the Speaker

### **Charts Created by Budget Committee:**

[Department of Defense Hearing](#), Defense Increases Under Bush Administration

[Department of Veterans Affairs Hearing](#), (March 1, 2007)

[Fiscal Challenges and the Economy in the Long Term Hearing](#) (February 28, 2007)

[IRS and the Tax Gap Hearing](#) (February 16, 2007)

[Department of Agriculture Hearing](#) (February 15, 2007)

[Department of Health and Human Services Hearing](#) (February 13, 2007)

[Treasury Department Fiscal Year 2008 Budget](#) (February 7, 2007)

[The President's Fiscal Year 2008 Budget](#) (February 6, 2007)

[Office of the Majority Leader Budget Clearinghouse](#)

### **Committee Mark-up:**

[Committee on the Budget Markup](#), March 21, 2007

[National Journal Report](#)

Opening Remarks: [Video](#)

### **Committee Hearings:**

[Budget Committee Hearings and Statements](#)

### **Statements of Support by Representatives**

[Chairman Bob Filner](#), Press Release, House Veterans' Affairs Committee

[House Democratic Leaders](#), Budget is Fiscally Responsible with the Right Priorities for America

[Speaker Pelosi](#), Fiscally Responsible With the Right Priorities for America

[Chairman Oberstar](#), Budget Provides Well for Transportation

[Representative Blumenauer](#), Hails Fiscally Responsible Budget

[Representative Schwartz](#), Statement on 2008 Democratic Budget

[Blue Dog Co-Chairs Applaud Chairman Spratt for Including Key Blue Dog Priorities in Democratic Budget](#)

[Budget Groups Support Pay-As-You-Go Discipline in Democratic Budgets](#)

[Experts endorse Democratic leadership's new pay-as-you-go budget rules](#)

[Veterans Groups Join Democrats in Support of Budget Resolution](#), Press Release, Veterans' Affairs Committee

### **Other Resources:**

[Reid - Pelosi - Conrad - Spratt Letter to President Bush on Budget](#)

[Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Analysis of House Budget Committee's Plan](#), March 22, 2007

## **INFORMATION ON THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET**

### **Analysis of the President's Budget:**

[CBO Analysis of the President's Budgetary Proposals for Fiscal Year 2008](#), March 2007

[The President's Budget Request, Good Ideas, Bad Ideas, and the Usual Phony Baloney](#)

[House Budget Committee Updated Analysis of the President's FY 2008 Budget](#)

[House Budget Committee Instant Analysis of the President's FY 2008 Budget](#)

[JEC FY 2008 State-by-State Budget Fact Sheets](#)

[Speaker's State-by-State Report on President's FY 2008 Budget](#)

[Speaker Pelosi's Overview Fact Sheet on the President's FY 2008 Budget](#)

[Program Terminations](#)

[Major Program Reductions](#)

[The President's Budget Request Good Ideas, Bad Ideas, and the Usual Phony Baloney](#), Chairman Obey

**Statements by Democratic Leadership and Committee Chairs:**

[Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Calif.](#) ▪ [Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer, Md.](#) ▪ [Chairman Ike Skelton, D-Mo.](#), Armed Services ▪ [Chairman Spratt](#), Budget ▪ [Chairman George Miller, D-Calif.](#), Education and Labor ▪ [Chairman Barney Frank, D-Mass.](#), Financial Services ▪ [Chairman Tom Lantos, D-Calif.](#), Foreign Affairs ▪ [Chairman Nick J. Rahall II, D-W.Va.](#), Natural Resources ▪ [Chairman Bart Gordon, D-Tenn.](#), Science ▪ [Chairman James L. Oberstar, D-Minn.](#), Transportation and Infrastructure ▪ [Health Subcommittee Chairman Pete Stark, D-Calif.](#), Ways and Means ▪ [Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn.](#), Appropriations Agriculture Subcommittee Chairwoman ▪ [David E. Price, D-N.C.](#), Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee Chairman

